. . . in my view

No place for bosses

Whenever the future of Toc H is discussed the need for more and better leaders is sure to be mentioned. There is widespread agreement that the health of a District, or Branch, or Mobile Action group, or Mark depends to a considerable extent on the quality of leadership. It may be worthwhile, therefore, asking ourselves what we mean by leadership in Toc H.

I suppose there is a tendency to think of the leader as a 'boss-figure', as a manager, or even a manipulator of men. The kind of leadership we need is very different from, and much harder than, this. There is no room for the boss in Toc H. Christ's command to "Love one another" demands an approach to personal relationships which is very far from the relationship of the manager to the managed.

This is not to say that there are no differences of function. Obviously there are. As Caryl Micklem wrote in a recent issue of *New Christian*, "There will always be some who are better at pondering and policy and others who are better at getting on with a given job. But any relationship between these two groups which is not that of complete and equal co-partnership is foreign to the gospel."

This renunciation of the concept of the boss may sound impossibly idealistic but Toc H, at its best, has always known that it is to this kind of idealism that it is called. It is called to replace the concept of the boss by the creation of relationships of trust and concern. This is one of the ways in which Toc H demonstrates to the secular world what the gospel of Love is all about.

It is scarcely necessary to spell out what this means in practical terms. It clearly demands that Area and District Teams, for instance, be teams in the fullest and deepest sense of the word. It equally demands that a relationship of real trust be established between all levels of the Movement, a relationship in which neither secretiveness nor carping criticism have any place.

Toc H indeed needs leaders but not leaders who are hungry for power, who yearn to be the boss. We need leaders who have the sensitivity to exercise their gift within a framework of partnership and trust.

London to Lesotho

Over the years many Toc H members have gone to serve the Church overseas and we have just heard that Geoffrey Paget, a General member from Western London and formerly a member of Chelsea Branch, is off to newly independent Lesotho (née Basutoland). Geoffrey, a fifty-year-old bachelor, is going out under the auspices of the USPG to take up the post of Diocesan Secretary to the Anglican Diocese of Lesotho. He has been working for the past eight years as a metal brokers' clerk in the City of London. Our best wishes go with him as he leaves to start a very different life in Africa.

K P-B

CANADA from where I'm standing

ALAN HILL

This year the World Chain of Light, which will be observed in the British Isles at 9 p.m. on Tuesday, December 12, is starting at the Mark in Toronto. We are thus very glad to have the opportunity of publishing some thoughts on Canada by a 'new Canadian'.

Photo: NFB Canada House

As most of my friends in Toc H will know, I have seldom been hesitant to express my views and opinions on any topic, whether I have had the right to do so or not. It may be a sign of advancing years that faced with the prospect of producing an article on Canada for the Toc H Journal I find myself timorous. Or it may be the knowledge that this article will be read by my Canadian friends—and justice can sometimes be rough on this side of the Atlantic.

This is Canada's Centennial Year when the nation is celebrating one hundred years of Federation. Perhaps the greatest single expression of Canadian pride is to be seen on three islands in the middle of the mighty St. Lawrence, the site of Expo '67. This great international Exposition has drawn plaudits from the world's press for its flair and imagination and has been visited by over 20,000,000 visitors from Canada and the United States so far. But the pride felt by most Canadians at the success of Expo is tinged by envy in many cases because it is sited in Quebec Province, the heart of French-speaking Canada. Many Ontarians feel that the exhibition should have been sited in Toronto and only a few Provinces gave it their reluctant support, thereby pointing the finger at one of the many problems which beset this young nation; the rivalry, sometimes bitter rivalry, which exists between the English- and French-speaking peoples.

From swinging Vancouver in the West with its Anglo Saxon culture and its problem of "Hippies" and "Love Ins", tempered by prosperity and rapid development, across the Rockies to wealthy Alberta and its peaceful integration of huge numbers of Americans, to booming Ontario which houses the bulk of Canada's population, there is a growing resentment at the tiresome demands of the French Canadians of Quebec who want, and vociferously demand, autonomy. If the demands for separate rule are met, why should other ethnic groups across Canada not seek the same privilege? There are 230,000 Italians in Toronto alone. I don't pretend to take sides in this argument, but I see in it a positive threat to any identity for Canadians as a single people of one nation.

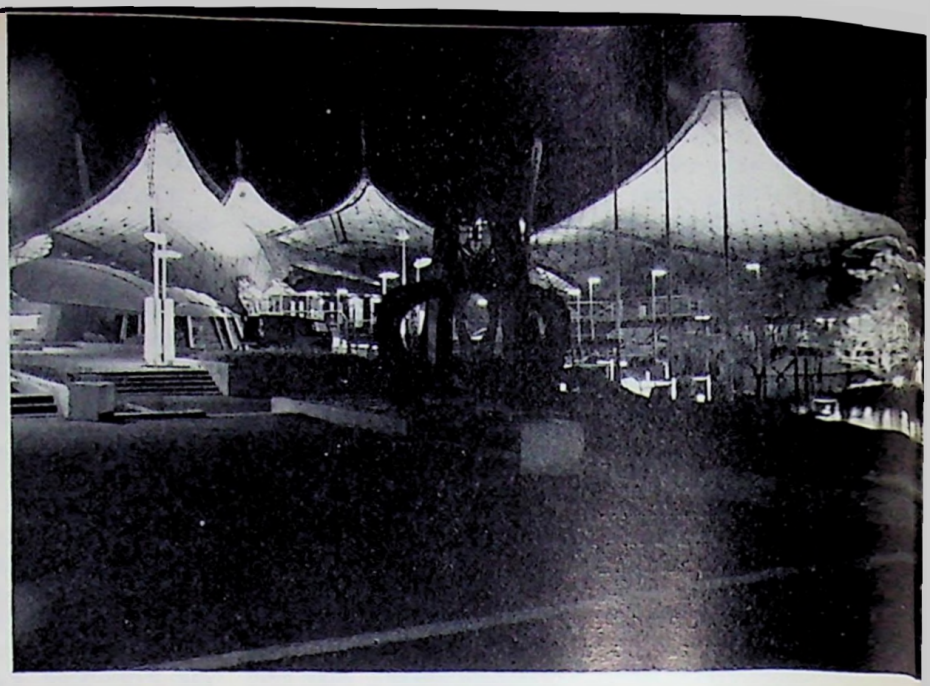
Another fear is the threat of domination by our cousins across the border in the United States and one has only to mention that this is already an accomplished economic fact to be forced to run for cover. Nothing can rouse Canadians to greater rage than this, perhaps because they feel so impotent to do anything about it. Recently there have

been several attempts on the part of the Government to curb the American economic invasion, but Canada badly needs economic investment to develop her vast resources and the investment power which she needs lies to the south of her border.

Almost every Canadian I have met is troubled about the problem of a national identity (apart from the die-hards who still, believe it or not, see Canada as a part of the British Empire) and almost every one has a different theory about how this might be achieved, but the difficulties are almost insurmountable. Federal Government is weak and the Provincial Parliaments tend to be parochial in their outlook and loud in their demands for their share of the Federal funds. One of the principal problems is that of a small population spread over a huge area. For instance, people in the Maritime Provinces and Newfoundland, the poorest areas of Canada, feel very little identity with their wealthy cousins in Ontario and the West and it is doubtful if many people in British Columbia are very deeply concerned about the problems which face their Atlantic relatives; after all they are separated by some four thousand miles. This land of huge physical and economic contrasts has a long search yet before it finds a national identity.

The Province of Ontario in which I live is heavily populated and has a greater concentration of industry than any other Province. Most European immigrants head for Toronto, surely one of the most affluent cities in the world, and each year sees a further expansion of the city's population by some thirty thousand people. Housing is probably the greatest single problem with employment running a close second. Most housing is in the hands of private developers and everywhere in this city of 2,000,000 people older houses are being torn down to make way for giant apartment blocks which are let the moment they are completed, despite the fact that rents are often exorbitant. There is a continuous pitched battle in the Provincial Parliament about the pitiful provision of public housing, which has resulted in bursting slums populated by those who are in the worst position to do anything about their situation. As many of the slum dwellers are immigrants with large families there is a tendency for rapacious landlords to extract high rents for the dubious privilege of a roof. Social legislation is as slow to catch up

High angle view looking down on Toronto towards Lake Ontario. Photo: NFB Canada House.



A striking silhouette formed by the tent-like pavilion of the Federal Republic of Germany at the Expo 67 exhibition. The structure is held aloft by eight masts. Photo: NFB Canada House.

with this problem as it is to deal with the educational programme and the need for new schools; Toronto City Council slashed $70,000,000 from the 1967/1968 educational budget.

The other side of the coin can be seen in the bulk of the population who enjoy a much higher standard of living than their counterparts in the United Kingdom. Homes are equipped with every modern appliance, most families own at least one car and many of them will have a summer cottage in the beautiful lake district which lies a hundred miles to the north of the city. It is easy to get out of Toronto because of a superb network of motorways which cross the city and every Friday night they are jammed solid with the cars of those who are anxious to escape the heat and humidity of the Canadian summer. Those who are unable to get away crowd into the few parks that are available or head for the all too few beaches on Lake Ontario which are, as yet, unpolluted.

Few countries can offer their children greater opportunity for higher education and the increasing numbers who wish to take advantage of this are causing the universities to expand with tremendous speed. In Canada the emphasis is on people with education and training and those who fail to attain either are not likely to go far; therefore competition for places at the universities and technical colleges is keen. Incidentally, some of the finest architecture in Toronto is to be found on the university campus. The rest of the city appears uncoordinated and messy to the eye of the newcomer, but strenuous efforts are now being made to effect some overall planning for the future.

Yes, there are many problems both in Ontario and throughout Canada, but this is a young country struggling to find its place in the modern world. Certainly the overall impression I get is that they will succeed. This is a thriving, vigorous country which is not afraid to face up to its problems: the fact that an increasing number of Canadians are concerned to do so augurs well for the future.

Toc H is a microcosm of the Canadian problem and we too are struggling to find a significant identity for ourselves. Our future depends on our willingness to accept the challenge of this developing society and to harness our energies towards the creation of a climate which encourages vigorous and creative thinking to meet the challenge of the future. It is fitting that this year Canada should be chosen as the starting point for the World Chain of Light and that the thoughts of Toc H Members throughout the world should be concentrated on the future of this great country. We ask for your prayers.

In this hard-hitting contribution to the current debate on the future of the Marks SIMON ALLARD, Warden of the Croydon Centre, challenges the whole concept of the Marks as it is at present understood. Our Marks, he says, present young people with "too little challenge too late".

Marks are failing

THE MARKS REPORT has been well received and the three distinguished men sitting on the team have been praised, and rightly, for the time, hard work and mental ability which they brought to their task. Nonetheless it is important that, out of respect for them, we do not suspend our critical faculties. The report has been acclaimed as a radical document. In fact it is an extremely conservative one. Admittedly it has had the courage to express publicly things that were recognised and should have been said a very long time ago. The assessment of the expenditure required to put things right is probably higher than expected. However the expenditure of £200,000 is not of itself a radical action. If expended on the basis of false premises, it is merely a foolish one.

The report analyses the symptoms of failure quite accurately but appears completely to have overlooked the underlying causes of this failure. In other words the report suggests that the early magic can be recaptured with a few simple additional ingredients in deference to the second half of the twentieth century. It proposes compensating for the lack of a dynamic challenge inherent in the orthodox Mark by making them physically more attractive. It proposes compensating for the lack of desire for involvement in community life by the introduction of more single rooms and more paid wardens.

The report fails to ask seriously whether Toc H should be involved in running hostels at all or whether there are not more relevant things that Toc H could be doing with these properties, frequently so strategically placed. In order to answer these questions it is necessary to take a fundamental look at the sociological changes which have taken place over the last fifty years. The Mark is essentially a public school, if not a monastic, concept. It suggests that we need to take young people out of the community before they can make an impact on it. This is a thoroughly discredited notion except where it is absolutely necessary in order to enable a committed band of people to achieve some understood purpose. Even religious communities are becoming increasingly aware of the dangers of ghetto mindedness and the necessity for involvement in the community. Advanced thinking goes much further than this and points to the necessity of living the life of the community in order to make an impact on it. Many of the most exciting things are being achieved by group ministries living in low-income urban situations, where men, women and children expose themselves to the needs of their neighbours.

If we concentrate our attention on young people for a while, we will learn that they are more affluent, more mobile and more independent than they were fifty years ago. They express their maturity in terms of flats and earlier marriages. The only thing that can be depended upon is change. Admittedly certain truths wear well, but even with these eternal truths, the method by which they are interpreted and understood changes with each generation, if not more frequently. The concept of living in a large house with people who are different from oneself and learning, through the process of sharing, to love those whom one would normally dislike, or even those whom, in fact, one does dislike, is almost totally foreign. The fact that this concept once fired the imagination of our forefathers is totally irrelevant.

We do not need to look outside Toc H for evidence that few young people are able to grasp the concept of choosing, quite deliberately, to meet with those whom one would normally avoid, and, through meeting, learning to love them and God. The Mobile Action phenomenon was a direct result of the confusion and failure of confidence of the older member in his approach to young people and the latter's almost total inability to see the point in meeting for meeting's sake. In many cases it has taken an incredibly short time for young

members of Mobile Action to discover for themselves, and in their own way, the basic Toc H insights. By concentrating on service they discovered the need to find time to get to know each other better. In fact they discovered what the older generation insists on calling fellowship in spite of their rejection of it.

However, if this concept is foreign to the younger generation unless discovered through involvement in the achievement of some understood purpose, the point of living in a Mark as orthodoxy intends is virtually lost. If the purpose of living in a Mark is not understood, the restrictions and other negative aspects of life in a Mark assume undue importance. Having said that, I suspect that the guarantee that a resident will eat the right things fairly regularly, will not be allowed to drink in the hostel and will sleep in his own bed, and probably alone, has always appealed more to parents than to their over-protected offspring. It is hardly surprising if the young person, unable to grasp the exciting challenge potentially inherent in the situation, uses the Mark as a stop-gap where he gathers some friends before moving on to a flat where he has the freedom to make mistakes and to discover himself. We are living in a fool's paradise if we imagine that we can hold the young man with initiative and a love for freedom by offering him the shelter and privacy of a single room and more creature comforts.

It is a nonsense to diagnose our predicament as one of comfort when it is so clearly one of relevance. At the risk of laying myself open to shouts of puritanism, comfort, conformity and complacency tend to go together. Toc H is meant to be challenging the standards accepted as normal by society. This is not an apologetic for allowing our properties to go to rack and ruin. On the other hand it does suggest that we might be challenging young men and women to live in slum conditions, sharing the life of their neighbours and exposing themselves to the needs of the community. The challenge would not be to accept the situation but to do something about it with their neighbours. This would make sense to young people. This would set them alight. The greater the freedom allowed in the situation, the more initiative it attracts and creates. There has been at least one case of a group renting their own large house and managing it completely themselves. In another case, a situation developed in a hostel known to Toc H where the residents discovered that they would only be able to improve the amenities of the house if they managed the property sufficiently well to yield a profit. In this case the amateurs succeeded where the professionals had previously failed; but they only bothered because they found themselves with the freedom to do something about it.

If a Mark was an exciting place to live in the residents would not have time to complain either about the accommodation or the food. If the surroundings were too depressing they would simply do something about it. It is a well known fact that young people today are more independent, demand more freedom and take less notice of their parents. These facts more often than not indicate the positive virtues of willingness to take on responsibility, self reliance and a developed critical faculty which refuses to accept blindly the oral traditions handed down by the older generation. This independence and freedom is found in flats. Those of you who have seen the flats which many young people, often in very good jobs, live in, will appreciate that comfort is very low on their list of priorities. It does not matter if peg board conceals a damp and crumbling wall and cats fight on one's corrugated iron roof provided one has freedom. Conditions do not matter if one can decorate one's room with everything from guitars to street furniture, eat and drink what, when and with whom one likes, and offer the floor, if not a bed to friends staying for the week-end and vague acquaintances who get stranded having spent their last cent on a loaf of bread 36 hours previously. The choice between a comfortable flat with the landlord living underneath and an uncomfortable one with a congenial landlord who seems to spend all his time abroad is easily made.

> **"the Marks are working against very large, and quite unnecessary, odds"**

It is impossible to recapture a lost dynamic simply by providing extra comfort. We tend to think that Marks are too difficult to live in when in fact they are too easy. We are inclined to think that our failure is due to too much challenge too early when in fact the reverse is true. I have heard several people reject the idea of Marksmen making

their own beds on the grounds that they would leave the Mark. If this is true, we have really plumbed the depths, should recognise the fact, and either sell the properties or put them to some more worthwhile and relevant use.

Toc H must face up to the sociological changes which have taken place. When Marks were enjoying their early pioneering spirit bank clerks could not marry under thirty without their bank manager's permission. Earlier marriages obviously reduce the age range and mature leadership that can be reasonably expected in a Mark; but, although this makes it more difficult to bring together a mixture of men, it is not the crucial issue. The fundamental point is that young people cannot see sufficient reason for giving up the freedom which moving from a flat into a hostel involves.

Toc H must also decide what it is trying to do. Is it aiming for a situation where the Marks attract men and women of a high calibre, give them an experience which stretches them towards their potential and provide the future leadership of Toc H? Or is it attempting to provide a re-orientation hostel for lonely young men who are enabled to make friends with whom they can share a flat and take up their proper place in the community?

Earlier in this article I suggested that far from making the mistake of too much challenge too early, we were guilty of too little challenge too late. Young people are prepared to give one or two years of their life to working with V.S.O. or in a kibbutz. They appreciate that this will, in the short term, set their careers back and delay the obtaining of qualifications; but they believe that they will learn so much about themselves and other people that the sacrifice will look diminutive beside the experience gained.

Are we not looking for people with this kind of initiative? If so, we have to think hard how, if at all, we can use our properties so that the challenge is sufficient to attract them. The ability is there. We do not have to look far for evidence. In Camberwell, under the direction of Bill Harris, recently on the Toc H staff, young Community Service Volunteers are doing much of the counselling needed by meth drinkers, drug addicts, voluntarily unemployed and the many others who are finding it so difficult to cope with society's demands. Young people may see things in black and white terms; but, once they are awakened to need, they are prepared to commit themselves with none of the woolly reservations that come with age and caution. If we provided residential centres specifically geared towards the rehabilitation of drug addicts, alcoholics, prostitutes, ex-prisoners or ex-mental patients, I believe the opportunity for approximately six young people to live in each such residential centre would be quickly taken up.

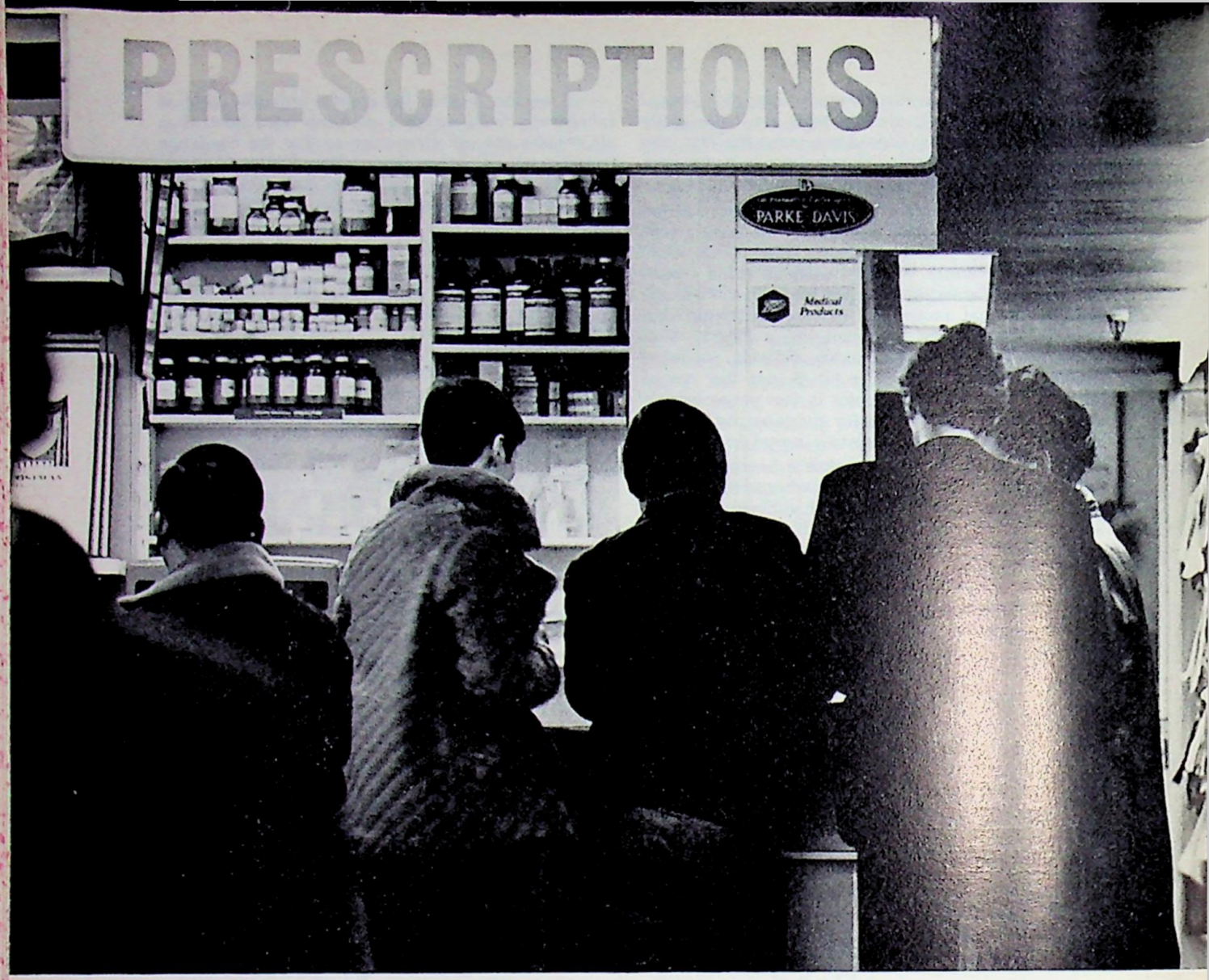
All this, it should be stressed, is not designed to decry what is being attempted in the Marks, but to point out that they are working against very large, and quite unnecessary, odds. By and large young people will only see the point of living in a hostel if this is essential in order for them to be able to do a particular job they want to do. Residential centres provide this element. Young people would be attracted not because they were easy to live in but because they offered opportunities for fulfilment. They would accept the challenge not because it was simple but because it was a real man's job, which would test, and they would believe prove, their maturity. Big jobs attract big people.

Read . . . .

. . . **GEORGE DAVIS** on his recent visit to Toc H in Rhodesia, Zambia and South Africa.

. . . **ABOUT PROJECTS 1967.** A fully illustrated report.

. . . in next month's Journal



DRUGS - THE FACTS

The JOURNAL takes a cold look at a currently hot subject and tries to bring a little sense to the upsurge of panic and gross exaggeration surrounding the problem of drug taking and drug addicts.

THE SPATE OF PUBLICITY in recent months on the subject of drugs has, for the most part, served to confuse the issue rather than to clarify it. Opinions are more numerous than facts. On the one hand there are those who profess to believe that all legal restrictions should be swept aside and anyone should be free to take drugs if they wish. On the other hand are those who see the growth of drug taking, particularly among young people, as one more sign of Britain's declining moral standards, as a symbol of the degradation inherent in all things 'modern'. Neither the anarchy of the 'hippies' nor the panic reaction of the middle-aged is particularly realistic.

If we are to attempt a more sensible assessment of the position we should perhaps start by recognising the fact that almost all drugs have beneficial effects if used properly. It is only when they are abused, when they are used as a way of escaping from life, that they result in harm to the individual and, sometimes, to the community as a whole.

It is equally important to realise that generalisations about drugs are literally meaningless. There are an enormous variety of drugs and some understanding of their widely differing effects is essential. For simplicity they may be divided into four main categories:—the opiates, cannabis, cocaine and the 'hallucinogens' or mind-changing drugs.

Opium is a sticky resin exuded from the poppy flower. More refined extractions produce morphine and heroin. The opiates are pain-killers (morphine is indeed widely used by the medical profession for this purpose) and they relieve anxiety. They also diminish hunger, thirst and sexual urges—though the effects undoubtedly vary according to the method of administration, the dosage, the personality of the user and even the personalities of those around him.

Violent Cramps

All the opiates have two major side-effects. They produce tolerance and dependence. Tolerance means that ever larger quantities of the drug are required to produce the same effect. Dependence, or addiction, means that the body becomes accustomed to working under the influence of a drug and as soon as the drug is stopped 'withdrawal' symptoms develop. These symptoms range from nausea and vomiting to violent cramps.

Cannabis (which is known under a wide variety of names, such as pot, marihuana, Indian hemp and hashish) may be smoked, made into a drink or eaten in the form of sweets. Its effects are less certain than those of opium but there is general agreement that it produces a feeling of well-being and promotes hilarity, talkativeness and increased sociability. It can also impair the judgement and produce irritability and confusion. For some people it apparently lowers the sensory threshold, making paintings, for instance, seem more vivid. Some people maintain that by relieving inhibitions cannabis leads to aggressive violence and criminal behaviour. Others regard it as

Hovis

the golden hearted taste

simply a mild stimulant, similar in some of its effects to alcohol.

Cannabis does not produce physical dependence. Nor is there any proof that it produces lasting mental disturbances although predisposed people may have temporary psychoses.

Riot of colour

The use of cocaine has shrunk to negligible proportions but it should nonetheless be mentioned because it is probably from cocaine that the myth of the implacable and merciless 'dope fiend' is derived. Cocaine is one of the most violent known stimulants. It produces an exaggerated feeling of power, physical and mental, but it also produces paranoid feelings in the user, profound fears that some enemy is out to hurt or destroy him. The reaction may well be to counter-attack the supposed enemy.

Finally we come to the category of drugs known as 'hallucinogens', peyotl, mescalin and LSD, for instance, drugs whose use has recently become in a few places, especially in the United States, a cult, almost a religion. With these potent hallucinogens, even more than with the other drugs we have been discussing, the attitude and frame of mind of the subject will profoundly influence the effect of the drug. This means that it is difficult to describe the effects objectively but the attempt must be made. The experience starts with a riot of colour, everything seems infinitely more vivid than ever before, feelings are magnified and distorted. Some people report that they can hear colours and see sounds. Then the subject receives the impression that he is separating from his body and looking at himself, as it were, from the outside. This is the first stage in the 'cosmic' feeling in which the personality is battered to bits and the subject loses all sense of his identity—an experience which for some is totally shattering but from which others claim to gain a completely new perspective on life.

The outward and visible sign of this new perspective, however, is frequently a loss of interest in job and family and a preference

(continued overleaf)

it is only when they are abused that they result in harm to the individual and, sometimes to the community as a whole.

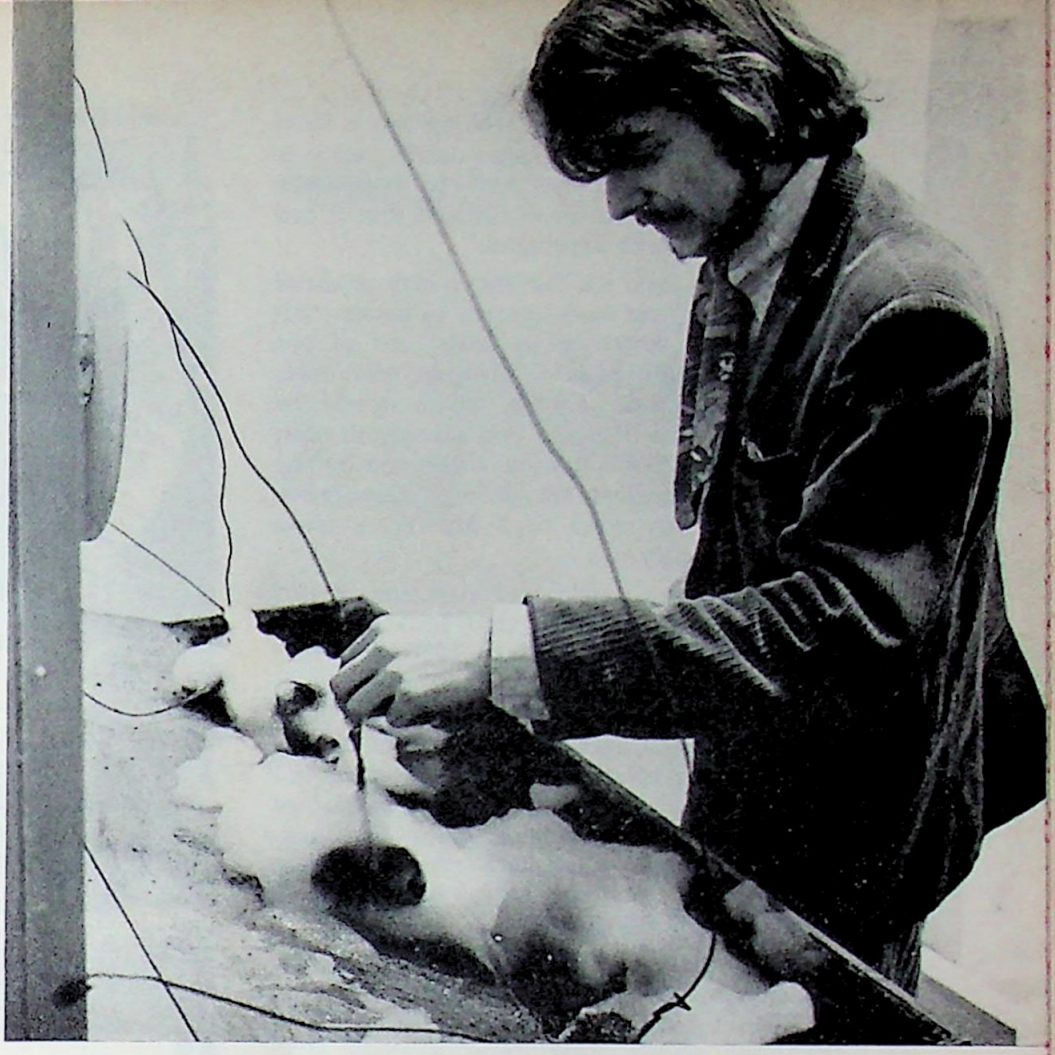


PHOTO PAGE 156: *The scene after midnight in a London pharmacy. Addicts obtaining drugs at the earliest possible moment on prescriptions. Photo: WHO by K. Brodie.*

TOP LEFT: *Infection from a dirty needle and unsanitary conditions is common among drug users. Infectious Hepatitis is also widespread. Photo: WHO by P. Laurie.*

TOP RIGHT: *Revolving discs lift and lower scouring pads into a trough filled with mud. Soap suds are added for kicks. They call it Psychedelic art work but such humorous unconventiality is a healthier outlet than drugs like LSD. Photo: WHO by K. Brodie.*

BOTTOM RIGHT: *A night out with the boys may lead to drug taking; acts of pointless daring and inevitably accidents. Photo: WHO by P. Laurie.*

for drifting through life seeking more 'cosmic' experiences. There is no doubt that it is a quick and dangerous way to temporary psychoses and it has been claimed that it can lead to permanent psychoses.

Timothy Leary, the American high priest of the LSD cult, has been quoted as saying: "It becomes necessary for us to go out of our minds to use our heads." He apparently feels that the madness of LSD, which opens the door to all the feelings and sensations that have been locked out since childhood by the inhibitions imposed by society, may prove to be the only road to a greater, a more universal, sanity.

However one reacts to statements of this kind there is no doubt that LSD has provided the psycho-analysts with a new weapon in their exploration of the unconscious, a new road into the vast inner continent of the human mind. The hallucinogens, like the other drugs, are dangerous but it would appear that, in the hands of competent investigators—a point that cannot be too strongly stressed—they may have something to contribute to man's understanding of himself.

These, then, are the four main categories of drugs but even a brief survey of this kind would not be complete without reference to the most widely used drug of them all—alcohol. To include alcohol among the drugs may perhaps at first sight sound far-fetched but a group of doctors, in a paper published by the World Health Organisation, have stated as their considered opinion that "the harm to the individual resulting from dependence on alcohol can be quantitatively greater than that caused by any other type of drug dependence." The great difference is that addiction to alcohol is regarded as a medical problem rather than a crime, that drinking, unlike drug taking, does not normally provoke moral indignation, is, indeed, socially acceptable.

Next month **Why Take Drugs?**

Specially drawn for the RNLI by Eric Fraser FSIA

lives depend on you

almost as much as on him

Safety at last. Brave men to the rescue. But they depend on people like you for their life-boat and equipment. Voluntary donations are their sole support. Give now and help save lives.

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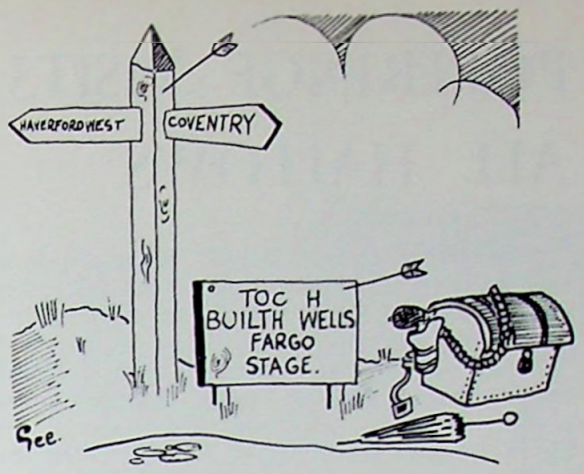
RNLI

TOC H WENT THATAWAY



HUW GIBBS

STRANGE THINGS HAPPEN at sea, so they say, but with motorways gobbling up the land miles and cars speeding unromantically from point A to B, with hardly enough time to get comfortable in your seat, an eventful journey by road is fast becoming a quaint memory of the past.

Not surprising then that a ten stage journey, planned in true Wells Fargo fashion, to get a mother and her family from Coventry to the Haverfordwest Branch chalet, brought forth both planned pleasant surprises, and a few unplanned ones too, for the 'stage-drivers' taking part.

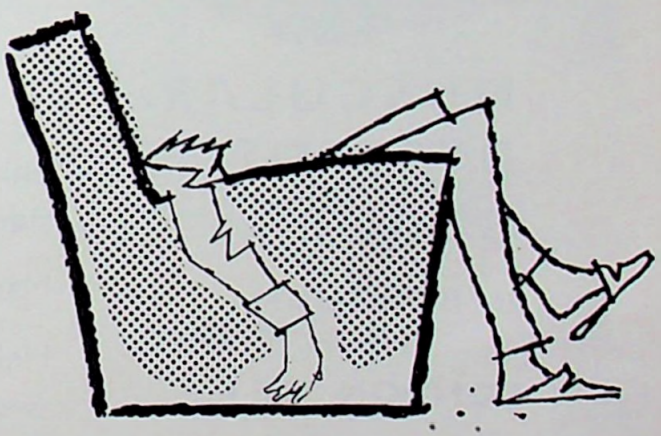
The original idea was Alan Robson's of Coventry Branch. It was he who decided that a series of cars waiting at pre-arranged pick-up points would be an interesting, economical and pleasant way to transport a family, including two handicapped children, to the holiday chalet at Haverfordwest, built by the Branch as a Jubilee project and now offered to any needy family for summer holidays.

From there the idea snowballed and before long there were drivers waiting at Worcester, Hereford, Builth Wells, Llandeilo, Penblewyn Corner and finally on to Haverfordwest. There were a few unexpected hitches, but this is not surprising under the circumstances and these will be eliminated as the route becomes used more frequently. The journey included a meal at Builth Wells and was completed in a reasonable nine hours relaxed driving time. In addition, many Toc H men met each other for the first time, even though it may only have been a quick 'allo' and 'goodbye' on the roadside, and enjoyed this unique and magnificent overland stage job.

Coventry Branch are now keen to see the 'chain', as they call it, put to greater use and extended to other areas, and ask those Branches north and east of Coventry to link up with the route already established to Haverfordwest.

It may not be quicker than rail, but 'chain' is certainly more interesting.

Ernie says:



"Oh yes, I have heard about Marks!"

POPERINGE VISITS ALL HALLOWS

A PARTY FROM POPERINGE recently spent a week in London at the invitation of the Rev. Colin Cuttell, Vicar of All Hallows. The object of the week was to further, through talks, discussions and personal contact, the ecumenical spirit that had been established when the Roman Catholic Church of St. Bertin's in Poperinge sang a special Te Deum for Toc H during the Jubilee celebrations in 1965.

Talks were given by Canon Bentley, of St. George's, Windsor; the Rev. Michael Bruce, Vicar of St. Mark's, North Audley Street, and secretary of the International League for Apostolic Faith and Order; and the Rev. Frederick Shriver of the Episcopal Church in America. The party also visited the Billy Graham Crusade and attended a session of Church Assembly.

On the lighter side the group went to a concert at the Festival Hall and spent a day seeing something of the Kent countryside. They were given a party by the Roman Catholic Church of the English Martyrs and entertained to dinner by Prideaux House in Hackney, where, says Rolande Blanckaert, Women's Association member from Poperinge, who was a member of the group, "We met with a tremendously warm and royal reception".

Asked to sum up the results of this very successful week Rolande says: "We realised that this week was a link in the chain which began at Jubilee—or even earlier. There are still many links missing but we are certain that from both sides the utmost will be done to complete the chain. We are very grateful to all who helped us to become conscious of the need to make the results of our week known and accepted as another step forward in ecumenical understanding".

A BLACK OUTLOOK

MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY GROUP

26 BOROUGH HIGH STREET, LONDON, S.E.1

Tel. HOP 5116

Yes, the outlook is indeed black for the thousands of children with muscular dystrophy — unless you can help. Money is urgently needed for research into this dreadful disease which wastes away muscle, spoiling and shortening the lives of young boys.

Too weak to play games they must only watch, at first standing on the sidelines, later from wheelchairs.

Many never reach the age of 20.

Help our doctors and scientists to sweep away the black cloud which threatens these children.

PHOTONEWS

ISTANBUL HERE WE COME

Central Executive member Rickie Lowe leaves Tower Hill on the first stage of a summer vacation trip to Turkey accompanied by fellow members of Exeter Mobile Action.

Photo. Huw Gibbs

Photo: A. E. Cox Studio.

Christiana Vallance, 19, a typist-receptionist, was chosen as Miss Toc H 1967 at the Trent Valley District Garden Party. The beauty competition, for which there were twenty entries, raised over £50 for Toc H.

Focal point of the Eastbourne Branch Garden Party was an open-air exhibition of over ninety paintings by local artists, displayed on stands lent by the local Corporation and organised by a former Principal of the Art School. The Garden Party helped to meet the cost of a camp for under-privileged boys from London. Photo: Eastbourne Gazette & Herald.

Hitchin is one of the Branches which has responded to the idea of launching a Basic Movement Advisory Panel, as described by Colin Gregg in the July Journal. B.M.A.P. is an organisation to assist the seriously physically disabled to lead more normal lives. Believing that Hitchin's experiences would be of value to other Branches thinking of undertaking this demanding but exciting work, we asked FREDDIE PETCH *for a progress report.*

GETTING OFF THE GROUND

Phase 1 was a letter to our local press telling the people of Hitchin, Letchworth and Stevenage areas what B.M.A.P. is all about.

Phase 2—a circular letter to all industrial organisations employing the type of engineer, technician or administrative staff who might contribute manpower to the project. These letters drew attention to the press articles, repeated the main objects, invited co-operation and suggested the possible use of facilities at a later stage.

Phase 3—a similar letter to Technical Colleges and similar institutions, inviting the help of staff and students, and suggesting that special jobs might possibly be loaded onto them for prototype construction of equipment, etc.

Phase 4 — and absolutely vital — three letters to medical authorities. These were (a) the Divisional Medical Officer for the County, (b) the Secretary of the County Local Medical Committee (through which the general practitioners, whose acceptance of the plan is essential, will be reached) and (c) the Secretary of the Medical Staff Committee of our local hospital, the Lister, at Hitchin.

Phase 5—not yet achieved, but planned in principle—obtaining the interest and active assistance of a legal mind.

Phase 6—also to come—the recruitment of representatives of the constructional industries.

The first thing we have learned is to be patient. In this we were encouraged by a recent visit from Pat Johnson, from Stockton-on-Tees, the National Organiser, who told us that it took them many months to get organised, and still more to get their teeth into the first real job. So with that knowledge we cheered up and pressed on.

We now feel that very soon we shall be gathering together informally all those mentioned above who want to be associated with the B.M.A.P. scheme. We believe it is most important that we should get to know each other and that everyone should be given the maximum information, so that enthusiasm and interest don't get the chance to grow cold.

How it will work out we are not foolish enough to forecast. We hope that the scheme will prove acceptable to the medical profession and to the local authorities. In that event we believe we can get it under way.

I don't think, on sober reflection, that we or any other interested Branch need feel disappointed at the rate of progress. Laying foundations is always a lengthy business; we are trying to make our foundations as sound as enthusiasm, allied to inexperience, will allow.

Here's one little immigrant who has decided the best way to learn British customs is to 'suck it and see!' Photo: Courtesy NCCI.

In her second article DORA BULLIVANT *stresses the need for an understanding of the background from which immigrants come.*

GOODWILL IS NOT ENOUGH

IT'S A COMMON MISCONCEPTION that foreigners are simply Englishmen who haven't been properly brought up. The English seem to be reluctant to recognise that there are cultures quite different from, and not necessarily inferior to, their own. But if our attempts to offer friendship to the immigrants in our midst are to be other than condescending and ineffective it is vital that we have some understanding of the very different cultures from which they come and of the very real problems of adjustment which they face.

Pakistanis, of whom there are more than 100,000 in Britain, constitute a considerable proportion of the Asians in this country and I propose in this article to look at some of the forms of 'culture shock' that face the Pakistani immigrant.

A few of the Pakistani immigrants are middle class professional men from the cities, with some knowledge of the English language and the English way of life. The majority, however, are peasants with no knowledge of the world outside the village from which they come. It takes very little imagination to realise the tremendous adjustment that is required of the Pakistani faced with an entirely alien way of life in a cold, damp climate, especially when one remembers that these villagers will find themselves living in cities and working in factories. Most immigrants, indeed, come from rural areas and they face problems reminiscent of those of the thousands of people in this country who at the time of the Industrial Revolution moved from the country into the urban slums.

Moral Standards

The sense of family is a major factor in the background of the Pakistanis. And by family is meant not just 'mum, dad and a couple of kids' but a complex web of relationships covering at times a whole village. Even in Britain the Pakistani will feel himself linked by ties of kinship to this 'extended' family, whether its members are here or in his home village.

Basic to a great many of the cultural differences of the Pakistanis is the fact of their Moslem faith. For instance, Moslems are subject to strict dietary laws. This means that a Pakistani boy will be very reluctant to attend, say, a Scout camp lest he come into contact with pork, or even with utensils that have previously been used for the cooking of pork. It also means that anyone contemplating inviting a Pakistani to his home for a meal must have the courtesy to ensure that the meal he serves conforms to the Moslem dietary regulations.

Equally important is the whole question of the place of women and of the relationship between the sexes. To the strictly brought up Pakistani English customs appear disturbingly lax and our moral standards almost non-existent. The casual relationships between the sexes that are normal in our society are completely taboo in Pakistan. The horror of the Pakistani girl at finding herself in a mixed school is intensified yet further when she finds that she is expected to remove her skirt to participate in gym classes. This basic cultural difference will almost certainly lead to increasing tensions within the Pakistani community itself. As the younger generation gradually become assimilated to English customs so the gap between them and their elders will inevitably widen.

These problems are of course greatly intensified by the language barrier which makes it extremely difficult for understanding between the immigrants and the host community to grow. Children learn English at school and their fathers pick up a certain amount of English at work. The mothers, however, in accordance with Moslem custom, practically never go out. The mother tongue, therefore, inevitably has to remain the language of the home and the process of learning English is slower than it would otherwise be. The importance of teaching immigrants English cannot be over-stressed and it is probably in this field that the greatest need and opportunity for volunteer helpers lie.

It is normal for a Pakistani man to come to Britain on his own, and only when he has found a job and saved some money to send for his wife and children. The newly arrived immigrant normally finds accommodation in an overcrowded boarding house owned by another Pakistani. It is part of the disturbing hypocrisy of the British attitude to the whole business of race that people affect to believe that immigrants like living in conditions of overcrowding and squalor. Far from liking slum conditions the newly arrived Pakistani is frequently shocked by them. Yet fear of the deterioration of the area and of a fall in housing values puts up the 'No Coloured' signs and confines the immigrants still more closely in the slums—areas which suffered from a chronic shortage of accommodation long before the current influx of immigrants began.

Hysterical nonsense

The difficulties which immigrants face are compounded by the fact that many of them find themselves living in areas in which employment opportunities, the quality of housing and the size of school classes are well below the average. "In these areas", says the recently published report, Immigrants and the Youth Service, "immigrants and existing inhabitants share a common difficulty in benefiting from the opportunities for development which the Welfare State is intended to afford."

Immigrants are here to stay—Mr. Duncan Sandys' recent statement that immigrants should be sent home can only be regarded as dangerous and hysterical nonsense which has forfeited such claim as he still had to be regarded as a serious politician. The clock can't be put back and it is important that Toc H play its part in helping immigrants, of whatever colour, to become an accepted part of the community in which they live. To do this, however, more than goodwill is required. We need sympathy, insight and understanding also.

freedom of speech

Scouting for Ideas

D. A. YARDLEY WRIGHT (July issue) is wrong as far as Kirkheaton Branch, Huddersfield, is concerned. The Branch, in helping to form the Scout unit in the village, which was closely followed by units of Guides, Brownies and Cubs, has kept in close association since their formation about two years ago. The Branch Chairman is Assistant Scoutmaster and plaques bearing the words "Presented by Toc H for individual merit" have been given. Scouts and Guides took part in our Garden Party this summer with other local organisations.

Recently all the Scout and Guide units helped in distributing bunches of roses and other flowers to over two hundred house-bound and elderly folk on "Good Neighbours' Day". With the co-operation of the Scouts and Guides Associations the first gala for many years was organised by the Branch and this year's Scout and Guide Gala will again have the co-operation of Kirkheaton Branch members. May the close association of these two great movements continue.

Kirkheaton. JOHN ROBERTS

No more Ritual

COLIN WINTLE in his article (July) asks why a live and active Branch cannot increase its membership. His tentative answer may be the correct one.

No doubt to suggest that we cut out Lamp lighting, corporate prayers and cups of tea would bring an avalanche of letters from long-serving members; but have we heeded these traditionalists too long? Have we thus driven away many who would have given virility to our Movement?

Times change and ideas change with them. Modern education rightly teaches men to examine ideas before accepting them. In most cases they accept the universal value of such Christian ideals as fellowship, service and fair thinking, but reject the dogmas, ritual and old routines which conceal them.

I think Toc H has a choice. To prune these non-essentials and live, or retain them and die.

Northampton. VIC BROWN

Councillor Mason launches Kirkheaton's 'Good Neighbours Day', inspired by 'Operation Spring Roses', run annually by Perth Branch, Australia, which was reported in the March JOURNAL. *Photo: Huddersfield Examiner.*

Vain Repetition

THE INTRODUCTION to the Annual Report speaks of the need for the Movement to be more flexible in its outlook, a view with which I entirely agree. Nevertheless I doubt very much whether this attitude prevails in the majority of Branches, and unless we are prepared to change our ways the decline in membership will continue. As our Administrator says, too many units are content to be caught in the circle of old custom and we must steer clear of outworn traditions, threadbare patterns of service, of unthinking direction and of vain repetition. I actually know of two men who were introduced to different units in the West London Area and who have not remained because just this sort of situation existed.

Let us take our heads out of the sand, otherwise it will be too late.

Ruislip. J. R. MORGAN

In the Know

from the General Secretary

Col. Sir Thomas Butler, Bt., D.S.O., M.C., Governor of the Tower of London and a member of the Toc H Central Executive, has accepted the appointment of Chairman of the Management Committee of 42 Trinity Square. From some time in October he will have as permanent full-time Warden Peter East who returns to the U.K. after more than nine years with Toc H Clubs in B.A.O.R., the last three of which have been as Deputy Commissioner.

John Cattell has now joined the Projects Team and is based on London.

Berend A. Koek from Tietjerk, Holland, has been appointed to the staff in the Projects Department.

Niall P. McEvoy has been appointed Assistant Warden, Talbot House Seafaring Boys' Club, Southampton.

Harold Tozer, 20 Lindley Avenue, Birchencliffe, Huddersfield, has been appointed Honorary Area Correspondent, West Yorkshire.

World Chain of Light. The Message from Toronto is now on its way to all parts of the world for reading during observance of the Chain, 11-12 December.

Members' Rolls for 1968 will soon be received by Branch Secretaries. The Branch Executive is responsible in the first instance for considering the health of the Branch in terms of "members in good standing". A meeting for this purpose during December will ensure that no undue delay occurs in completing the Roll.

Toc H Financial Year ends on October 31. This month gives us the last chance this year of exceeding the average contribution to the Family Purse of £5 per member.

WE APOLOGISE to Bob Smith of Kidderminster who by mistake was renamed Bob Green in last month's pictonews feature.

. . . we will remember them

Crouch—On August 26, Arthur Ralph Crouch, a founder member of Willesborough Branch. Elected 1946.

Evans—On August 4, Bertie Evans, aged 69, of Lowestoft Branch. Elected 1967.

Fernie—On July 24, Robert Malcolm Fernie, aged 60, of Woolwich Joint Branch. Elected 1965.

Goolden—On July 1, Charles Edward Goolden, aged 74, of Oswestry Branch. Elected 1949.

Hill—On June 12, Samuel E. Hill, of Vancouver Group. Elected 1961.

Leadbitter—On August 14, Charles Oliver Leadbitter, aged 80, a Foundation Member and a South London Area member.

Leighfield—On August 7, Aubrey Leighfield, aged 67, of Bedwas Branch. Elected 1948.

Lyel—On August 2, Hugh Bierne Lyel, aged 72, of Goring-by-Sea Branch. Elected 1940.

Mitchell—In August, Ronald James Mitchell, a Notts & Derby Area member. Elected 1935.

Potts—On August 12, Francis William Potts, aged 80, of Burnham Branch. Elected 1945.

Quinlan—On July 25, John Quinlan, aged 41, of Loughton Branch. Elected 1962.

Say—On August 17, Cyril Alfred John Say, aged 66, of Wembley Branch, formerly of Lahore. Elected 1940.

Tytherleigh—On August 1, Leslie Albert Tytherleigh, aged 58, a Southern Area General member. Elected 1960.

West—On July 31, George Robert Henry West, aged 68, of Tavistock Branch. Elected 1961.

Wilson—On August 11, Edwyn A. Wilson, a Central General member. Elected 1930.

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